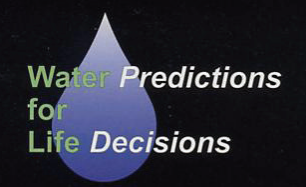


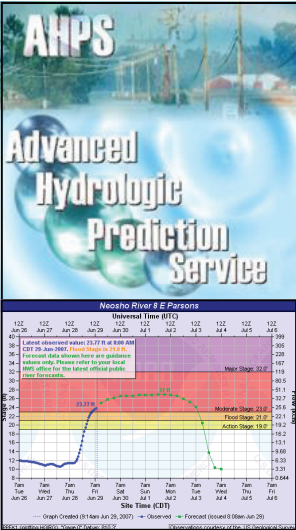
ADVANCED HYDROLOGIC PREDICTION SERVICE (AHPS)

The Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) is a web-based suite of information-rich graphical forecast products. These products enable emergency managers to make informed decisions about risk based policies and actions to mitigate the dangers of flooding.

AHPS products cover forecast periods ranging from hours to months, including graphical information about the chances of flooding. The hydro-graph information shows the probability of a river reaching minor, moderate, or major flooding.



Additional information on AHPS can be found at:  
<http://www.weather.gov/oh/ahps/>



HYDROLOGIC RIVER FORECASTS

Prepared by the California-Nevada River Forecast Center

San Luis Obispo County

- Salinas River at Paso Robles

Santa Barbara County

- Sisquoc River at Garey
- Santa Ynez River at Narrows

Ventura County

- Ventura River at Foster Park
- Santa Clara River at Freeman Diversion
- Sespe Creek at Fillmore
- Calleguas Creek at California State University Channel Islands

<http://www.weather.gov/ahps/>

<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/>



Calleguas Creek Stream Gage

DROUGHT

Drought is a normal, recurrent feature of climate. It occurs almost everywhere, although its features vary from region to region. Defining drought is therefore difficult; it depends on differences in regions, needs, and disciplinary perspectives.

For more information on drought, please visit:

<http://www.drought.noaa.gov/>

<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/monitor.html>



NWS MISSION

The NWS mission is to provide weather, water, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters, and ocean areas for the protection of life and property, and the enhancement of the national economy.



The National Weather Service (NWS) is a federal agency under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which is part of the Department of Commerce (DOC).

NOAA/National Weather Service  
Weather Forecast Office Los Angeles/Oxnard  
520 North Elevar Street  
Oxnard, California 93030

(805) 988-6615

[www.weather.gov/losangeles](http://www.weather.gov/losangeles)

Cover photo: Sespe Creek near Fillmore, CA.  
January 11, 2005



NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

HYDROLOGY



WEATHER FORECAST OFFICE

LOS ANGELES/OXNARD



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# Hydrologic Services

An agency within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Weather Service (NWS) is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States. As a key part of the NWS charter to protect life and property, the NWS Hydrologic Services Program focuses on providing forecasts, watches and warnings for river and flash flooding. The Hydrometeorological Prediction Center (HPC) prepares and issues national forecasts of accumulating (quantitative) precipitation, heavy rain, heavy snow, and highlights areas with the potential for flash flooding.

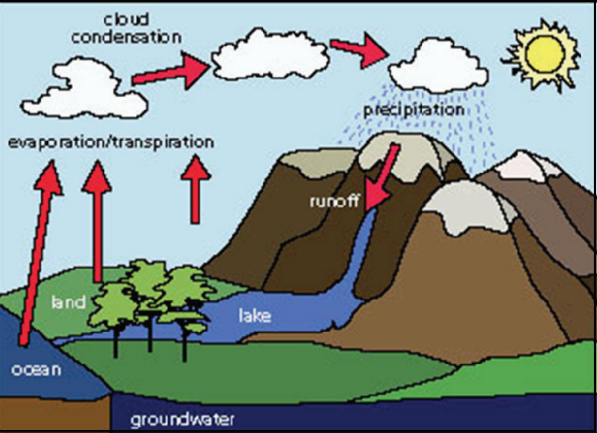
<http://www.hpc.ncep.noaa.gov/>

The California-Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC) provides continuous hydrometeorological data assimilation, river basin modeling, and hydrologic forecast preparation for California and Nevada.

<http://www.cnrfc.noaa.gov/>

## WHAT IS HYDROLOGY

Science dealing with the properties, distribution, and circulation of water on and below the earth's surface and in the atmosphere.



The Water Cycle

## NOAA/USGS DEBRIS FLOW EARLY-WARNING SYSTEM

Once the smoke clears from a wildfire, the danger is not over!! Other hazards, such as flash floods and debris flows, now become the focus. Areas recently burned by wildfires are particularly susceptible to flash floods and debris flows during rainstorms.



Country Club Drive - Burbank, CA  
October 18, 2005

The National Weather Service (NWS) and the United States Geological Survey (USGS) have established a flash-flood and debris-flow early-warning system for recently burned areas in southern California. Advisory Outlooks, Watches and Warnings are then disseminated to emergency management personnel.

To find out more about this project visit:

[http://www.weather.gov/losangeles/debris\\_flow.php](http://www.weather.gov/losangeles/debris_flow.php)



## HYDROLOGIC PRODUCTS

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Flood Watch                           | Issued when there is a threat of mainstem river or tributary flooding during the next 36 hours, OR flooding mainly during the winter season, that is hazardous to either life or property, or will cause a great amount of flood related problems during the next 36 hours.             |
| Flash Flood Warning                   | Issued when flash flooding is either occurring or imminent that poses a threat to life and/or property OR when USGS-forced flash flood guidance has been reached or is forecast to be reached in the next 2 hours over any recent burn areas OR in the event of a dam or levee failure. |
| Flood Warning                         | Issued for longer term flooding of mainstem rivers that can last for several days (i.e. a prolonged heavy rain event).  |
| Urban and Small Stream Flood Advisory | Alerts the public to flooding which is generally only an inconvenience (not life-threatening) to those living in the affected area. Issued when heavy rain will cause flooding of streets and low-lying places in urban areas.  |
| Flood Statement/Flash Flood Statement | Provides follow-up information on Flood/Flash Flood Warnings. Announces cancellation or expiration of Flood/Flash Flood Warnings.   |
| Hydrologic Outlook                    | Issued when there is a good possibility of a storm system bringing flooding or flash flooding to the local forecast area within the next 36 to 72 hours.  |
| River Statement                       | Issued when the California-Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC) issues a river forecast product that indicates an observed or forecast river stage/flow at or above Flood Stage/Flow.   |

For information on the latest hydrologic watches, advisories and warnings visit:

<http://www.weather.gov/losangeles/hydrology.php>    <http://www.weather.gov/losangeles/>



Flooded roads could have significant damage hidden by floodwaters. **NEVER** drive through floodwaters or on flooded roads.

## QUANTITATIVE PRECIPITATION FORECASTS (QPF)

The National Weather Service (NWS) issues site-specific rainfall forecasts during the rainy season for 20 locations throughout its 4-county warning area. The product includes a precipitation forecast in inches for the next 24 hours for all 20 points as well as a synopsis and day 1 and day 2 discussion. The product is issued seasonally from November 1st to April 30th.

<http://www.weather.gov/losangeles/hydrology.php>

